



The **VOX**



The Official **On-Line**
Newsletter of the

Lehigh Valley Amateur Radio Club - W3OI / KB3SYV
Allentown, Pennsylvania (Lehigh County) - USA



Officers

President: **Rod Wolfe, Jr. - N3XG** (n3xg.radio@gmail.com)

Vice President: **Brian Klock - KW3K** (KW3K@kw3k.com)

Secretary: **John Bartos - AB3LZ** (jab.2@rcn.com)

Treasurer: **Brian Snyder - KB3QHA** (brian@teamsnyder.net)

Board of Governors

Myles Bodisch - KB3ZMA (MYLES@HOLENCIKROOFING.COM)

Gary Decker - W3GRD (SCOUTIH79@YAHOO.COM)

Robin Gable - KB3GZV (kb3gzv@arrl.net)

Scott Leichssenring - KB3YOT (scott.leichssenring@verizon.net)

Paul Ryan - N0KIA (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

VOX Editor - Mark S. Miller (AK3M) ---- AK3M@rcn.com

Webmaster- Paul Ryan (N0KIA) ----- (paul.f.ryan@gmail.com)

LVARC Repeaters

146.34 / 146.94 (PL 71.9)
147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)
447.775 (PL 71.9)
Club Simplex Freq. - 147.420

LVARC/RACES/ARES Net

Every Monday at 7:30 (ET)
146.940 (PL 71.9)

D-Star






W3OI Dstar repeaters are now on W3OI at
147.165, W3EPE at 445.225 and W3OK at
145.110

Join us for a Mid-Atlantic regional net Tuesdays
on the 147.165 port at 7:30 pm.

To register for the Gateway or need information
on setting up the radio, please visit
<https://24.229.28.14/Dstar.do>

W3OI Home Page: <http://www.w3oi.org>

CONTENTS FOR JANUARY 2014

Meeting Information	INFORMATIONAL	..... page 3
L.C. RACES Net Information	INFORMATIONAL	..... page 3
Minutes of the December 2013 Meeting .....		..... pages 4-5
This Month In Ham Radio	INFORMATIONAL	..... page 6
VE Report .....		..... page 7
LVARC Events and Activities .....		..... page 8
New LVARC officers for 2014	INFORMATIONAL	..... page 9
Ham radio celebration style .....		..... page 10
Communications vests.....		..... page 11
How the LVARC measures up .....		..... page 12
New hams .....		..... page 13
2013 LVARC Holiday party / Pres Schuler award .....		..... page 14
"And the winners are ....." .....		..... page 15

IMPORTANT -- de Mark (AK3M)

CHANGE IN TESTING PROGRAM! Testing will be held the **3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm**. The **NEW LOCATION** will be **HANOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on **Jacksonville Road** in **Bethlehem, PA**. **REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY**. *The deadline to register is the Sunday before the test session.*

3890 Jacksonville Road --- Bethlehem, 18017-9307



Newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark
(AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com

Your submissions can be text and/or graphics.



The January, 2014 LVARC meeting will be held on
January 7, 2014 at the Tri-Clover Fire Company at 7:30





LVARC / RACES NET

Don't forget to check into the Monday Night
LC/LVARC/RACES Net on 146.94 (PL 71.9) with an
alternate frequency of 147.735/147.135 (PL 167.9)
The Net begins at 7:30 pm local time (ET).

**Many club announcements
will be heard there !**

Monday Night RACES/ARES Check-In Summary - 2013

<u>Month</u>		<u>Number of Check-In's</u>		<u>Number of Nets/Mondays</u>
January		108		4
February		105		4
March		133		4
April		132		5
May		87		3
June		108		4
July		140		4
August		128		4
September		117		4
October		122		4
November		131		4

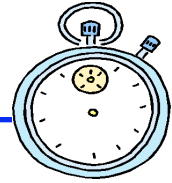


If you are not receiving the VOX via e-mail from me, you
need to send me an e-mail so I can add/correct your e-
mail address on my list Mark (AK3M). Remember,
you can always read the newsletter from the W3OI
website

<http://www.w3oi.org/dates2013.htm#newsletters>



Minutes of the December, 2013 LVARC Meeting de - Phil (KB3HMK)



The meeting was called to order by President Wolfe at 1932 Hrs, (EST).

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then a moment of silence was observed for Silent Keys.

There were a total of 29 members in attendance, and the club was joined by 1 guest. The following Board Members were present at the meeting: Rod – N3XG, Brian – KW3K, Phil – KB3HMK, Brian – KB3QHA, Paul – N0KIA, Robin – KB3GZV, Matt – KB3UZE, Chuck – WB6CDY and Gary – N3GRD.

Guests: Steve Haas – KC3BQF

Corrections additions to the minutes: In the Club Station section, Lower Macungie should read Upper Milford. The correction was noted.

Approved by: Dave – W3AMC

Second by: Myles – KB3ZMA

Carried (Y/N) Y

Treasurer's Report (Brian – KB3QHA)

Starting Balance: \$3,738.12

Ending Balance: \$4,251.52

Approved by: John – AB3LZ

Second by: Scott – KB3YOT

Carried: (Y/N) Y

Committee Reports:

Repeater: Nothing to report

Program: Tonight's program is the annual cookie cruncher. The Hands-On-Night program on the 17th will be on the CHIRP program. The club needs programs for next year. If you're interested in doing one, please contact Rod.

Volunteer Examiners: At the November 15, 2013 test session, three tested and three passed. Club Station: Rod talked to the chief of Tri-Clover Fire Co. about possibly having the station at the firehouse. There was no response back from the county.

Tax Exemption: There is no new update for our tax exemption status.

CONGRATULATIONS to:

Ron DiGiovanni (KC3BKJ) - General

Tom Urban - Technician AND General

Stephen Haas - Technician

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom Urban and Stephen Haas who tested at the November 15, 2013 LVARC test session. They received their calls on Friday November 22, 2013. Tom's call is KC3BQE and Stephen is now KC3BQF.

Old Business: The Hanover Twp. 5K run went well. Scott (KB3YOT) and Judy (KB3YOS) did a great job as net control. Thank you to all that helped out.

There is a VHF contest coming up that Myles (KB3ZMA) wants to participate in. He is looking for members to join him. If interested, please contact him.

Brian had a follow up meeting with the D&L Heritage Corridor. This is the organization that did the marathon in November. They were very thankful for our support.

(Minutes cont. on page 5)

(Minutes cont. from page 4)

New Business: The club received a \$300.00 donation from the D&L Heritage Corridor group for our support of the marathon. Rod sent a thank you letter to them.

The Eastern Pa. EMS Council donated old radio equipment to the club. Some will be saved and sold, others will be stripped down for metal and taken to a salvage yard for money. Rod is looking for help in this task. Please contact him if interested in helping.

Elections were held tonight. Walt (KE3SP) was the judge with and Mark (AK3M) and John (AB3LZ) were the tellers. The following is the result of the election for the 5 board positions: Paul (N0KIA), Myles (KB3ZMA), Gary (W3GRD), Scott (KB3YOT) and Robin (KB3GZV). Rod thanked the members who served for this year.

Rod asked for a motion to have the current ballots shredded. Rex (KC1WE) made the motion and it was seconded by Tony (KC3AMC). The motion passed.

Good of the Order: Bob Famiglio (K3RF) is running for ARRL section manager. He needs at least 10 signatures to be put on the ballot. If you're an ARRL member, please sign the paper.

New member applicants: Steve Haas – KC3BQF

New Members Motion to Accept by: Scott – KB3YOT

Second by: Gary – W3GRD

Carried (Y/N) Y

The LVARC Monthly Business Meeting Closed at 2005 hrs, (EST.)

Motion by: Bruce – KB3FIH

Second by: Brian – KW3K

In favor: Y

Respectfully Submitted de KB3HMK, Secretary.









"I would like to thank all the members of the club for allowing me to be the recording secretary for the past 9 years. It was a pleasure and an honor to have served the members and be involved with the business side of the club. Thank you, Phil - KB3HMK"

\$\$\$ W3OI Finances \$\$\$

Balance ending November 2013 - \$4,251.52



THIS MONTH IN HAM RADIO

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January			1 NEW YEARS DAY 2014	2 Run up the Flagpole and See if Anyone Salutes Day	3	4 EUCW 160m Contest 
5 	6 ARES RACES Net 7:30	7 LVARC Meeting Tri-Clover 7:30	8 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	9	10  Peculiar People Day	11 MI QRP January CW Contest
12 Deadline to schedule test	13 ARES RACES Net 7:30	14 Dress Up Your Pet Day 	15 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	16	17 LVARC Test Session 6:30 pm	18 Hungarian DX Contest 
19 National Popcorn Day 	20 ARES RACES Net 7:30	21 LVARC Activity Night Tri-Clover	22 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	23  National Pie Day	24	25 UBA DX Contest, SSB
26 Spouse's Day 	27 ARES RACES Net 7:30	28 Fun at Work Day	29 Dist. 2 RACES Net - 7:30 147.255	30	31 Backward Day	2014

LVARC meeting - Tuesday January 7 - 7:30 - Tri - Clover FC

Test session - January 17 - Hanover Elementary School - 6:30 pm.

LVARC Activities/Events

Mark your Calendar

PRINT, CLIP and POST



Monday January 6 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday January 7 --- LVARC Meeting (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Sunday January 12 --- Deadline to schedule for test session
Monday January 13 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Friday January 17 --- VE Test Session (REGISTRATION REQUIRED)
Monday January 20 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)
Tuesday January 21 --- LVARC Activity Night (7:30 - Tri Clover FC)
Monday January 27 --- LC RACES/ARES Net - 7:30 pm (146.94)



2014



There may be additions and deletions to the above dates. Listen to the Monday Night Net, the newsletter and announcements at meetings for changes.

LVARC VE Report

de Mark (AK3M)

At the November 15, 2013 test session, three tested and three passed.

CONGRATULATIONS to:
Ron DiGiovanni (KC3BKJ) - General
Tom Urban - Technician AND General
Stephen Haas - Technician

LVARC
VE
Program



VE's in attendance included Mark (AK3M), Frank (W3FTU) and Walt (KE3SP)

REMEMBER: The LVARC offers amateur radio testing. If you want to obtain your entry level license or if you wish to upgrade, the LVARC can help.

Test sessions are given the 3rd Friday of each month. **REGISTRATION REQUIRED!!!** To schedule a test or for more information, contact Mark (AK3M) at AK3M@rcn.com or call 610-865-9183.

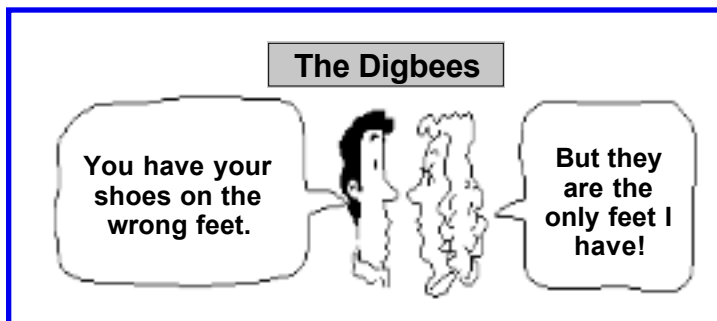


Have an article, diagram or an opinion you would like to share with the LVARC members in this newsletter? Send it to Mark (AK3M). You can submit VOX material in any form. Send it via e-mail (AK3M@rcn.com) or US mail (5508 Hale Ave - Bethlehem, PA 18017). You can send pictures, diagrams or text. **The newsletter needs YOUR material to continue!**

New Year's Resolution(s)

Do your 2014 LVARC resolution(s) include:

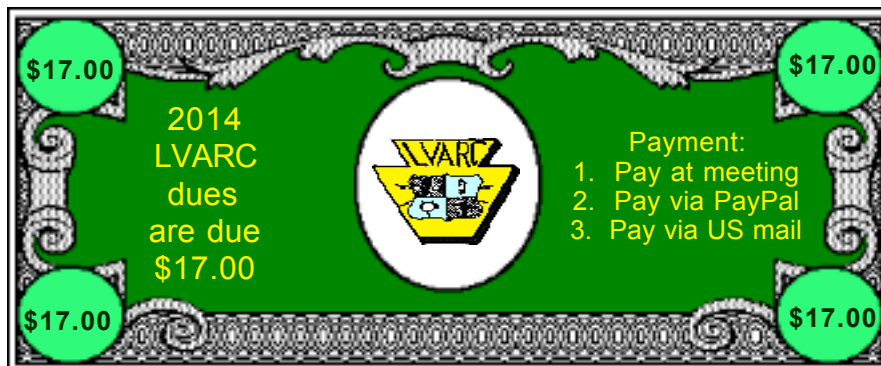
1. Volunteering to be Monday Night Net control operator?
2. Volunteering for an LVARC ARES event(s)?
3. Submitting an article(s) to the VOX?
4. Helping out at Field Day?
5. Upgrading your license with the LVARC VE team?
6. Taking an ICS/NIMS course(s)?



A million dollars weighs about a metric ton. Hence the expression "*a ton of money.*"



LVARC dues for 2014 are now being accepted. Dues can be paid to Brian (KB3QHA) (1) at a meeting, (2) via PayPal or (3) send to Brian via US mail. Dues have *NOT* increased in many years. **Dues are \$17.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a household.**

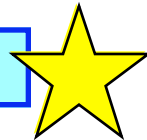


If you opt to pay Brian via US mail, send to:

**Brian Snyder
PO Box 3134
Easton, PA 18043**



New LVARC Officers for 2014



The voting is done and the tally is in. Below, are the new LVARC officers for 2014. **CONGRATULATIONS** to:

President: Rod (N3XG)

Vice President: Brian (KW3K)

Secretary: John (AB3LZ)

Treasurer: Brian (KB3QHA)

Board of Gov.

Paul (N0KIA)

Robin (KB3GZV)

Gary (W3GRD)

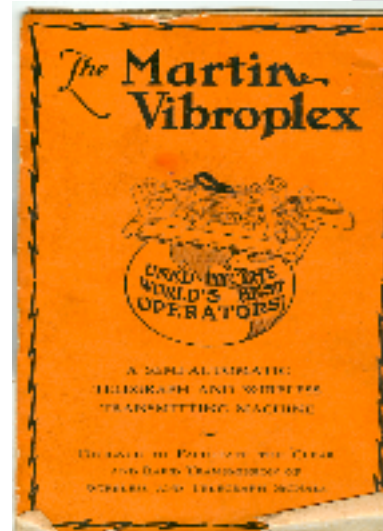
Myles (KB3ZMA)

Scott (KB3YOT)



READER SUBMISSION

In the December, 2013 issue of the VOX, you read about **Horace G. Martin**, the inventor of the Vibroplex Keyer. To the right is the cover page of his manual for the keyer. **TNX to Frank (W3FTU) for this treasured memory.**



READER SUBMISSION

- de Myles (KB3ZMA)



The LVARC will be participating in the January **ARRL VHF contest**, **Saturday January 18, 2014**. If you are interested in participating or, would like more information **contact Myles (KB3ZMA)** at Myles@holencikroofing.com or 484-221-4085.



How Ham Radio Operators Celebrate New Year's Eve de Mark (AK3M)



Although this was from a year or two ago, I am assuming this is an annual event and will happen again this December 31, 2013. Check out the URL. It is a nice Ham way of celebrating the new year!

Amateur radio operators are all welcomed to the 3916 Tailgaters & Freewheelers New Year's Eve Party. The fun will start on 3.916 Mhz Tuesday night, December 31st at 8:30 PM with the Tailgaters Net.

<http://ke5ggy.blogspot.com/2011/12/new-years-eve-on-3916-mhz.html>



Remember, you need **ICS 100** **AND** **ICS 700** to participate in a RACES event.



ARES events do not require certification of those courses. If you have taken any of these and have NOT yet sent me a **COPY** of your certificate, please do so. I am keeping a record of those LVARC members who have passed the courses. --- Mark (AK3M)

2014 LVARC ARES Events

Below, are *tentative* LVARC ARES events. Specific dates will be announced.

Mark your calendar and volunteer to help!!!

April --- 1/2 Marathon

June --- Hanover Township Spring 5K
"Girl's On The Run" 5K

September --- LVHN / VIA Marathon

October ---- Women's 5K Classic

November --- Hanover Township Fall 5K



"Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day." ~ Michael Josephson

Communications Vests? - de Mark (AK3M)

It occurred to me that for an ARES event, I suggest that operators, “take and wear their communications vest,” but I never offered from where these vests come? If you wish to purchase a vest (for ANY event, ARE, RACES etc.). you can visit many sites. Below are a few suggestions. Please be advised that the purchase of these vests is ***NOT*** mandatory! *There is plenty of time to get a vest for upcoming 2014 Spring and Summer ARES events.*



The ARRL

<https://www.arrl.org/shop/Emergency-Communications/?sort=title>



Grainger

<http://www.grainger.com/Grainger/Communications-Vest-9Y512>



The Vest Guy

<http://www.thevestguy.com/product/10010/ares-races-vest>



Emergency Services Communications

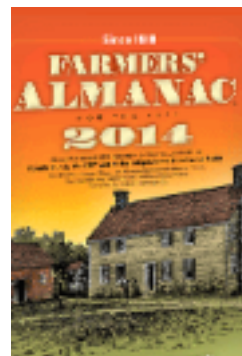
http://www.escommunications.net/Reflective_Safety_Vest_p/v-1000.htm

There are many other sites for vests. The ones included above here are simply a sampling.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THIS WINTER?

The “Days of Shivery” are back! For 2013–2014, we are forecasting a winter that will experience below average temperatures for about two-thirds of the nation. Southern New England, Southeast New York, New Jersey, and down through the Mid-Atlantic region will be seeing either copious rains and/or snows. Significant snowfalls are forecast for parts of every zone. Over the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, we are “red-flagging” the first ten days of February for possible heavy winter weather. (Source - The Farmer's Almanac)

<http://www.farmersalmanac.com/weather/2013/08/25/2014-us-winter-forecast/>



How the LVARC Measures Up



READER SUBMISSION - de Mark (AK3M)

I received my issue of CQ today and was prompted to put my comments in the VOX. On pages 55-59 of the November, 2013 issue of CQ, is an article about choosing a radio club. As I was reading it, it occurred to me that the **LVARC measures up very well with the author's criteria** when one is selecting a club. Below is a summary of his criteria, the LVARC and what it has to offer!

"What should I look for in a club?"

- ✓ **Repeaters** - The LVARC maintains **TWO OPEN** 2m repeaters.
- ✓ **Club nets** - The LVARC holds a weekly **ARES/RACES/LVARC** net.
- ✓ **Newsletter** - The LVARC has a monthly newsletter (**VOX**) which is distributed to members via e-mail and is always available on the club's website.
- ✓ **Website** - The LVARC maintains a *great* website with the convenient URL of w3oi.org. The website contains present and past issues of the newsletter and all club information.
- ✓ **Skywarn** - The LVARC has a SkyWarn coordinator, a SkyWarn program and activates SkyWarn nets during severe WX events.
- ✓ **ARES** - The LVARC has an active ARES program. Communication support is provided to seven or more community events a year.
- ✓ **License classes** - The LVARC has, in the past, held license classes and will do so in the future, if there is enough interest.
- ✓ **Testing** - The LVARC holds **monthly** test sessions.
- ✓ **Elmering** - Although no formal Elmering program, the LVARC members are always encouraged to assist anyone with their ham related needs.
- ✓ **Programs** - Following every business meeting, is a program. The LVARC also holds an **Activity Night** on the third Tuesday of every month at the club meeting site. That's **TWO** gatherings a month!

Looks like the LVARC measures up VERY well and has a lot to offer anyone who is looking to join an amateur radio club!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Tom Urban** and **Stephen Haas** who tested at the November 15, 2013 LVARC test session. They received their calls on Friday November 22, 2013. **Tom's** call is **KC3BQE** and **Stephen** is now **KC3BQF**.

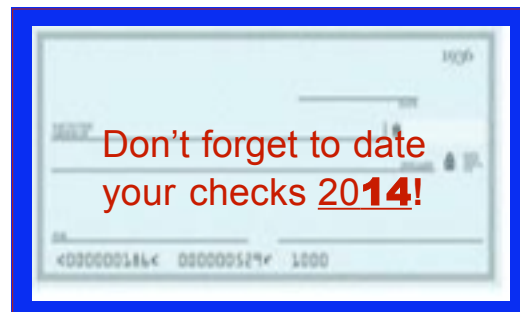


Bethlehem native, Liberty High School graduate chose to lead FEMA's regional operations

President Barack Obama has appointed Jerome Hatfield, a former Bethlehem resident and a Liberty High School graduate, to oversee a portion of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's operations in the Northeast and Caribbean.



http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/bethlehem/index.ssf/2013/11/bethlehem_native_liberty_high.html



READER SUBMISSION

- de Larry (NR3R)

WWII Radio Heroes --- Skyview Radio Society Interviews Author Lisa Spahr

"..... I wasn't aware of all the efforts ham radio was involved in..."

A great book about a great subject!



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXyl-3Wd8YQ&feature=youtube_gdata_player

The LVARC Holiday Party was held following the regular business meeting on Tuesday December 3, 2013. There was plenty of food and fellowship in anticipation of the 2013 holiday season!



Special Recognition was given by Rod (N3XG) at the December, 2013 meeting, to the following LVARC members for their contribution(s) to the club during the 2013 year:

1. **Phil (KB3HMK)** - for his 9 years of service as the recording secretary!
2. **Mark (AK3M)** - for managing the LVARC VE program and ARES events.
3. **Scott (KB3YOT)** and **Myles (KB3ZMA)** - for their contributions.
4. **Jeff (N3MFT)** - for his RACES contribution over his many years. Bruce (KB3FIH), will assume the L.C. RACES position.
5. The **Gable family** with special attention to Mrs. Gable for her food contributions.



2013 Pres Schuler Award ★



Following the December, 2013 meeting, the Pres Schuler Award was presented to **Walt Snyder (KE3SP)**! This is an annual LVARC award given for excellence in service to the club for the year. Recipients for this award are chosen by club members. ★



CONGRATULATIONS to Walt on receiving this award for his years of service to the LVARC including past board member and a current and active member of the LVARC VE team! ★ ★ ★

Congratulations to the winners of this year's club incentive raffle!

In order of drawing they were:

- 1 - **Theresa Gable**, Yaesu VX6R
- 2 - **KB3UZE Matt**, Anytone Dual-Band Mobile
- 3 - **KB3ZMA Myles**, Baofeng UV5RAX+
- 4 - **N3RPV Chris**, Baofeng UV5R
- 5 - **KB3VNS John**, Baofeng UV5R
- 6 - **W3GRD Gary**, Baofeng UV5RAX+
- 7 - **KB3GZV Robin**, Baofeng UV5R
- 8 - **N0VGA Don**, TYT Dual Band Micro HT
- 9 - **KC3AFU Jim**, Baofeng UV5R
- 10 - **KC1WE Rex**, Baofeng UV5R
- 11 - **WB6CDY Chuck**, Baofeng UV5R
- 12 - **KB3GZW Dorian**, FDC 2M HT



Thanks to all the club members who helped at the many and various activities throughout 2013. For those who didn't win a prize at the December meeting, your tickets will remain active for the quarterly drawings throughout 2014. The next drawing will be in February. ---- 73, Paul (N0KIA)



READER SUBMISSION - de Mark (AK3M)

“12 volt Box “ --- TNX to Don (N0VGA) for his nice gift of an 8AH battery along with one I already had, I decided to make a “12 volt DC box.” This is nothing new as there are many on the internet, but mine is special to me. It contains, (1) 2-12v outlets, (2) 1-5v USB port, (3) 1-set of banana/binding posts, (4) a digital volt meter to monitor the status of the batteries, (5) a clock and (6) a nice LED light strip. This box will be great in a power outage when the HT or cell phone needs charging. The USB port can run a laptop. An inexpensive inverter (75 watts) allows for an LED night light or small AC device. The switches permit monitoring the voltmeter without keeping it on continuously and the other switch activates the LED strip. The re-charging port is on the right end.

